

Edwards Secures Funds to Help Madison County Construct an Emergency Operations Center

(WASHINGTON, DC) – Congressman Chet Edwards has secured funding that will help Madison County build an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) under the 2011 Homeland Security Appropriations bill, which passed the House Appropriations Subcommittee this week.

“A new Emergency Operations Center will help Madison County emergency personnel work together to keep our communities safe in emergency situations,” said **Edwards, a senior member of the House Appropriations Committee**

“In the event of a natural disaster or terrorist attack, there is no greater priority than to ensure the safety of our citizens. I want to thank Madison County leaders for bringing this important project to my attention.”

Madison County Judge Henson said, *“This is great news for Madison County. We have been trying for quite some time to secure funding for an Emergency Operating Center. During Hurricane Ike, we didn’t have a functioning EOC and realized how ill prepared we were. We appreciate Congressman Edwards’ help in securing this funding so that we may be better prepared for future emergencies.”*

Specifically, Edwards added \$250,000 for a Madison County Emergency Operations Center at the request of local leaders. During Hurricane Ike, the Emergency Operating Center was operated out of the County court room without adequate support. These funds would help renovate and expand existing facilities to accommodate a fully functioning Emergency Operating Center.

The bill must still pass the House, Senate and be signed by the President.